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**SIXTY-NINTH ORDINARY SESSION OF THE COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS**

Abidjan, 30 November – 02 December 2012

**REGULATION C/REG.14/12/12 ADOPTING ECOWAS
STANDARDS HARMONISATION MODEL & PROCEDURES**

THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS,

MINDFUL of Articles 10, 11 and 12 of the ECOWAS Treaty as amended establishing the Council of Ministers and defining its composition and functions;

MINDFUL of Article 26 of the said ECOWAS Treaty stipulating that Member States shall agree to harmonise and coordinate industrialisation policies with a view to promoting industrial development and the integration of their economies;

MINDFUL in particular of the provisions of Article 26 (3) (L) of the said Treaty, thereof urging Member States to adopt joint standards and adequate quality control systems in order to create a solid base for industrialisation and enhance collective autonomy;

MINDFUL of Supplementary Act A/SA.07/02/10 of 2 July 2012 adopting the West African Common Industrial Policy (WACIP);

CONSIDERING that it is vital to define the fundamental principles, procedures and mechanisms by which the ECOWAS Technical Committee on Harmonisation, the ECOWAS Commission and the ECOWAS Member States must harmonise and maintain standards within ECOWAS;

CONVINCED that to render the region's standardisation system effective, it is important to ensure that a coherent institutional structure is put in place to enable all relevant national and regional bodies to fully perform their respective roles;

DESIROUS of defining a standards harmonisation model for ECOWAS and laying down harmonisation procedures for those standards;

ON THE RECOMMENDATION of the Meeting of ECOWAS Ministers in charge of Quality Assurance held in Niamey, Republic of Niger on 19 October 2012;

ENACTS

ARTICLE 1

By virtue of this Regulation, the attached ECOWAS Standards Harmonisation Model & Procedures are hereby adopted.

ARTICLE 2

1. The harmonisation model & procedures referred to in Article 1 of this Regulation is aimed at defining the methodology for standards harmonisation within ECOWAS.
2. Where necessary, and with the necessary adaptations, the procedures shall be based on the relevant International Organisation for Standardisation/International Electro-Technical Commission Directives and World Trade Organisation/Technical Barriers to Trade Agreements.

ARTICLE 3

Member States, the Commission and all other ECOWAS institutions shall ensure the application of the procedures referred to under Article 1 of this Regulation.

ARTICLE 4

1. This Regulation shall be published by the ECOWAS Commission in the Official Journal of the Community within thirty (30) days of its signature by the Chairman of the Council of Ministers.
2. It shall also be published by each Member State in its National Gazette within the same timeframe after notification by the Commission.

DONE AT ABIDJAN, THIS 2ND DAY OF DECEMBER 2012

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H.E. CHARLES KOFFI DIBY

CHAIRMAN
FOR COUNCIL